

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00234 190813Z  
ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 H-01 INR-10 IO-13  
L-03 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15  
TRSE-00 /078 W

-----074810 190819Z /16

O R 190747Z APR 78  
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2798  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BELGIUM  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0234

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MBFR: NATO, MBFR  
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF INITIATIVE

REF: A. STATE 098017 DTG 172336Z APRIL 78  
B. MBFR VIENNA 0232 DTG 181819Z APR 78

IN ITS SESSION OF APRIL 18, AD HOC GROUP DECIDED TO OMIT SOME  
OF THE MATERIAL DESCRIBING THE INITIATIVE FROM THE DRAFT  
PRESS STATEMENT CLEARED BY WASHINGTON AGENCIES  
IN REF A. (SEE REFTTEL B FOR RESULTING TEXT). WE DO NOT  
CONSIDER THAT RESULTANT PRESS LINE WILL BE ADEQUATE TO  
DEAL WITH DETERMINED PRESS ENQUIRIES IN COMING WEEKS AND  
THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT AGENCY SPOKESMAN COULD ON AN IF ASKED  
BASIS USE DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE ALREADY APPROVED BY WASHING-  
TON AGENCIES, AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

SECRET

SECRET

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(1) OUR INITIATIVE DEALS WITH TWO MAJOR OPEN  
ISSUE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

(2) THE FIRST OF THESE IS THE ISSUE OF COMMITMENTS ON  
THE AMOUNT AND TIMING OF PHASE II REDUCTIONS BY  
DIRECT PARTICIPANTS.

(3) THE WEST HAS NOW OFFERED TO UNDERTAKE IN PHASE I A BINDING COMMITMENT ON THE OVERALL AMOUNT AND TIMING OF MANPOWER REDUCTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN PHASE II BY THESE WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS.

(4) THE SECOND ISSUE IS THE QUESTION OF THE COMPOSITION OF PHASE I U.S.-SOVIET REDUCTIONS. THE NEW INITIATIVE WOULD ALTER THE REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS ENVISIONED IN PHASE I FOR THE USSR. THE USSR WOULD NOW BE EXPECTED TO WITHDRAW FIVE INDIVIDUAL DIVISIONS, NOT AN ENTIRE TANK ARMY AS A SINGLE FORMATION. THE WEST CONTINUES TO PROPOSE WITHDRAWAL OF 68,000 MEN AND 1,700 MAIN BATTLE TANKS BY THE USSR.

(5) OWING TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THESE TALKS, WE CANNOT GIVE FURTHER DETAILS. END TEXT.RESOR

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXT, POLICIES, PRESS RELEASES, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MBFRV00234  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780167-0354  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MBFR VIENNA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780440/aaaabhxe.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 89888bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ACDA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 98017, 78 MBFR VIENNA 232  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2920719  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS TREATMENT OF INITIATIVE  
**TAGS:** PARM, US, NATO, MBFR  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/89888bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014